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**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
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**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I feel the current proposed settlement is a bad idea. I have no affiliation with any of the players in the case. As a consumer I have spent many long nights trying to make software such as Quattro Pro, Lotus, and others work in MS Windows. It was blatantly obvious to me that Microsoft was not going out of its way to make sure these competitive programs worked in its OS. The solution to this problem is very simple.

First, Microsoft should not be allowed to incorporate/bundle any software into its OS that is not absolutely necessary to operate the computer. Any other software packages such as Virus Protection, Firewalls, Browsers, Music Players, etc should be sold separately. Microsoft still gets to innovate and the consumers can choose what they want added to their OS. Second, Microsoft should not be allowed to include any code that either directly or indirectly prevents competitive software from working with their OS. Third, Microsoft should not be allowed to create proprietary file formats for the sole purpose of maintaining their market share; this behavior does not benefit the consumer.

Best Regards,  
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